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Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

Report of the Second Committee*

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I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 99 (see A/54/587, para. 2). Action on sub-item (g) was taken at the 24th and 43rd meetings, on 27 October and 24 November 1999. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/54/SR.24 and 43).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.9 and A/C.2/54/L.45

2. At the 24th meeting, on 27 October, the representative of Guyana, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership" (A/C.2/54/L.9), which read:

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in nine parts, under the symbol A/54/587 and Add.1-8.

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"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993, 49/95 of 19 December 1994, 50/122 of 20 December 1995, 51/174 of 16 December 1996, 52/186 of 18 December 1997 and 53/181 of 15 December 1998,

"*Recalling also* the adoption of the Agenda for Development and the relevant provisions on its follow-up and implementation, and the need to give impetus to international economic cooperation for development so as to follow up on the Agenda effectively,

"*Reaffirming* the importance of continuing the dialogue in response to the imperatives of solidarity, mutual interest and benefits, genuine interdependence, shared responsibility and partnership in promoting international economic cooperation for development,

"*Recognizing* the role of regional cooperation in promoting complementarity and in creating synergies between subregional, regional, interregional and multilateral economic potential and cooperation in the process of globalization,

"*Taking note* of the need to assure the coordinated follow-up and implementation by the United Nations system of major United Nations conferences and summits,

"*Taking note* of the past experience of the high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership,

"1. *Reaffirms* the importance of continued constructive dialogue and genuine partnership to further promote international economic cooperation for development in the twenty-first century;

"2. *Decides* that the theme of the second high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership will be 'Responding to the challenges of globalization: facilitating the integration of developing countries into world economy in the twenty-first century';

"3. *Decides*, without changing the biennial nature of the high-level dialogue, to defer the holding of the second two-day high-level dialogue to its fifty-sixth session;

"4. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to begin consultations with Member States so as to arrive at an early decision on the date, modalities, nature of the outcome and focus of the discussions of the second high-level dialogue, taking into account past experience and the contributions to be provided by Member States as well as regional institutions and the United Nations system;

"5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with Governments, all relevant parts of the United Nations system, relevant organizations and other development agencies, to make initial preparations for the dialogue, while also taking into account the results of major United Nations conferences and summits;

"6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session, under the item 'Sustainable development and international economic cooperation', the sub-item entitled 'High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership', and requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at that session a consolidated report on the implementation of the present resolution."

3. At the 43rd meeting, on 24 November, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership" (A/C.2/54/L.45), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.9.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.45 (see para. 7).

5. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.45, draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.9 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft decision proposed by the Chairman

6. At its 43rd meeting, on 24 November, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the note by the Secretary-General on the themes for the second high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership (A/54/328) (see para. 8).

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993, 49/95 of 19 December 1994, 50/122 of 20 December 1995, 51/174 of 16 December 1996, 52/186 of 18 December 1997 and 53/181 of 15 December 1998,

Recalling also the adoption of the Agenda for Development[1] and the relevant provisions on its follow-up and implementation, and the need to give impetus to international economic cooperation for development so as to follow up on the Agenda effectively,

Reaffirming the importance of continuing the dialogue to be conducted in response to the imperative of solidarity, mutual interests and benefits, genuine interdependence, shared responsibility and the partnership in promoting international economic cooperation for development,

Recognizing in this context the importance of an enabling environment and sound economic policy at both the national and international levels,

Recognizing also the role of regional cooperation in promoting complementarity and in creating synergies and partnerships at the subregional, regional, interregional and global levels in the process of globalization and thereby furthering multilateral economic cooperation,

Emphasizing the importance of recognizing and addressing the specific concerns of countries with economies in transition so as to help them to benefit from globalization with a view to their full integration into the world economy,

Noting the need to ensure the integrated and coordinated follow-up and implementation by the United Nations system of major United Nations conferences and summits,

[1] Resolution 51/240, annex.

Noting also the past experience of the high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of continued constructive dialogue and genuine partnership to further promote international economic cooperation for development in the twenty-first century;

2. *Decides* that the theme of the second high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership will be "Responding to globalization: facilitating the integration of developing countries into the world economy in the twenty-first century";

3. *Also decides*, without changing the biennial nature of the high-level dialogue, to defer the holding of the second two-day high-level dialogue to the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to begin consultations with Member States so as to arrive at an early decision on the date, modalities, nature of the outcome and focus of the discussions of the second high-level dialogue, taking into account past experience and the contributions to be provided by Member States as well as regional institutions and the United Nations system, and commends the continuing use of interactive panel discussions, including with the participation of non-governmental actors, to facilitate the dialogue in accordance with relevant rules and regulations;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with Governments, all relevant parts of the United Nations system, relevant organizations and other development agencies, to make initial preparations for the dialogue, while also taking into account the results of major United Nations conferences and summits;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the sub-item entitled "High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at that session a consolidated report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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8. The Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Note by the Secretary-General on the themes for the second high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

The General Assembly takes note of the note by the Secretary-General on the themes for the second high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership.[2]

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[2] A/54/328.